

## **SC Victim Service Coordinating Council MEETING MINUTES**

9:00 am-3pm, January 25, 2008

Edgar Brown Bldg. Rm 252, 1205 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC

**Present:** Nancy Barton, William Bilton, Hope Blackley, Dean Kilpatrick, Surleaner Smith, Ashlie Lancaster, Jeff Moore, Tricia Phaup, Shannon Staley, Joanna Katz, Veronica Kunz, Sandi Wofford, Carol Woodard.

**Absent:** Vicki Bourus (family emergency), Marvin Bryant (health reasons), Dottie Cronise (family illness), Barbara Grissom, BJ Nelson (family illness), Bob Rightsell (illness).

The meeting was called to order and the contractor read a statement regarding VSCC operation in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. Ashlie moved to approve FOIA compliance, and Dean seconded; compliance was approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was approval of minutes. Veronica moved to approve minutes, Trisha seconded, and minutes were approved unanimously.

The contractor welcomed new members and all VSCC members introduced themselves.

Ashlie provided an update on the legislation proposed by the VSCC (see final report FY06-07). It has been submitted and has two sponsors already. It was suggested the VSCC put out an information sheet on the legislation once the new letterhead is available.

William moved to reconsider changes to 16-3-1555(B) so that there would be no change in current law. Sandi seconded. Veronica handed out a written statement from the SC Victim Assistance Network on the issue. Members voted unanimously to accept the motion. William moved to table Mr. Rightsell's proposed changes in 16-3-1555(B). Tricia seconded and acceptance was unanimous.

It was suggested that a committee be formed to study the issue that had prompted proposed changes and report to the council at the next meeting, with the report including a flowchart of how information moves through the system outlined by 16-3-1555(B). Volunteers and suggested committee members included Sandi, Veronica, Jeff, and Bob. The contractor will send a reminder to facilitate the first meeting of this committee.

After a brief break, the training segment of the meeting began. National panelists Jeannette Adkins (OH), Lynda Carson (NJ), Shari Konarske (IA), and Karen O'Bryan (FL) described history, structure, accomplishments, and lessons learned in establishing credentialing programs for victim assistance providers in their states and nationally. A question and answer period ensued and continued after lunch. It was decided that specific VSCC planning about next steps for pursuing SC credentialing would be

reserved for the next meeting given high absenteeism and need for planning to be inclusive.

VSCC members reviewed logo choices and found choice #2 with Ariel font to be most popular. It was decided that a color change to “Palmetto blue” would provide more contrast and hold up to photocopying. Jeff moved to accept the logo in blue, Sandi seconded, and all were in favor. The contractor will have the graphic designer layout letterhead with this logo and VSCC member names.

An issue was introduced regarding pending legislation on receipt of services for undocumented immigrants. It was suggested that the VSCC legislative committee (discussed at previous meetings) be formed and that this be the first issue addressed. Volunteers and suggested committee members include Ashlie, Hope, Shannon, Jeff, and William. The contractor will send a reminder to facilitate the first meeting of this committee. Because the legislation is moving fast, Dean moved that the committee could provide recommendations and VSCC voting to address these could be handled via email. Hope seconded and all were in favor.

Plans for next meeting include nominating a crime victim representative and planning for next steps on credentialing, among other issues. A meeting date will be set in March. To address any urgent issues as the VSCC-supported bill moves through the legislative process, Ashlie moved that the VSCC could communicate and vote on pertinent matters as needed. Sandi seconded and all approved.

Dean moved to adjourn, Hope seconded, and all approved.